

The *PALMETTO PARTISAN*

The Voice of the South Carolina Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans



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There is only one Post Office which can be utilized for mailing under the current permit, and that is Charleston (and not just any branch). There are restrictions as to the number of pieces in a mailing, the nature of each piece, and sorting conditions, to name only a few. All of these requirements are met each time we mail the *Palmetto Partisan*, and they were met when we mailed each member a Memorial Day postcard.

A recent incident threatened our organization with penalties for misuse. None of the restrictions were met when someone acquired a number of blank Memorial Day postcards, addressed them to friends in Camden, and mailed them at the Camden Post Office. Fortunately, our contact at the Charleston Post Office intercepted the resulting postal communication and helped us avoid the penalties.

Members are cautioned to avoid using the Permit imprint without specific and individual authorization of the Division Executive Council in cooperation with the Editor of the *Palmetto Partisan*.

Burbage Recovers

SC Division 2nd Lt. Cdr. Randy Burbage is recovering nicely at home at this writing, from abdominal surgery on June 5, 1995. He is expected to take a few weeks to fully recover and return to work. He is up and about simple business and feels better daily. You should have seen his cute little gown that he wore in the hospital for a while. We told him to wear it backwards and walk out to the Nurses' Station, but, as usual, he wouldn't listen to us. No wonder he was so bored in the hospital. At any rate, remember him with a card or something: 1131 Darwin St., Charleston, SC 29412.

Good News for the Flag!

On June 13, 1995, the Appropriations Bill was signed into South Carolina Law by Governor David Beasley. This Bill contained an amendment which protects the flying of the Confederate Battle Flag over the State House, as well as all other adornments of that building, during and after renovations. All such adornments must be replaced in the same positions they enjoyed prior to removal for renovations of the structure.

It now is crystal clear, for all to see, that the Confederate Battle Flag flies over South Carolina with the full consent of the State Legislature, and efforts to remove it will have to be through Acts of that Legislature, versus the SC Court system. It also is clear that the flying of that Flag is a continual commemoration of the Confederate Soldier and all other South Carolina citizens who suffered in support of the battle for freedom from the imposition of the invaders' will.

The thanks of the Southern community, both from within and without the Palmetto State, should be extended to the stalwart legislators who took this step to preserve this particularly honorable portion of our heritage against the attacks by misguided citizens and Druts.

Real Sons Added to Roster

Rivers Bridge Camp #842 has several distinctions added to their credit. Three Real Sons from Tillman and one from Allendale, SC, have been added to its roll.

Brothers **Edgar, James, and William Boyles** have joined that camp, all at the same time, along with **James Archie Barker**, swelling the Real Son Roll to **13 for the Division**.

The distinctions mentioned are (a) most number of Real Sons signed at one time, (b) most number of Real Sons signed from the same family, (c) and most number of Real Sons in a camp.

The Real Son roster totals by camp are Rivers Bridge #842, 5; Battery White #1568, 3; B/G Barnard Bee #1575, 2; and 2nd SC/Pickens, Gen. Wade Hampton #273, and Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard #1458, 1 each.

Congratulations to Rivers Bridge Camp for their diligent search for new members and for their new Real Sons!

The Palmetto Partisan

Founded 1980

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The *Palmetto Partisan* welcomes letters to the editor, brief manuscripts, and articles. All submissions should include the author's name, address, and telephone number. Material should be of interest to the compatriots of the South Carolina Division at large. All material subject to editing. All submissions become the property of the *Palmetto Partisan* unless otherwise stipulated.

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Opinions of the Editors or Editorial Staff are not necessarily those of the SC Division or International SCV, unless explicitly stated.

Change of address to 1113 Pine St., Cayce, SC 29033

"To you, Sons of Confederate Veterans, we submit the vindication of the Cause for which we fought; to your strength will be given the defense of the Confederate Soldier's good name, the guardianship of his history, the emulation of his virtues, the preservation of those principles he loved and which made him glorious and which you also cherish. Remember, it is your duty to see that the true history of the South is presented to future generations."

Lt. Gen. Stephen D. Lee
SCV Commission

Getting the Word Out Using Arts Funding

The Cabell-Graves Camp #1402, Danville, Va., helped host 130th Anniversary activities for the "Last Capital" programs held at the Danville Museum of Fine Arts and History. A play, living history demonstrations, and social events including a Jeff Davis Ball were the order of the weekend. Readers may recall a recent incident regarding Confederate Flags in this City.

In reporting this celebration, editorial comments of *The Old Dominion Voice* (Va. Division publication) bear reporting on their own merits:

"This cooperation between a local SCV Camp, the Chamber of Commerce and local government once again illustrates our goals are not exclusive of each other and demonstrates the revenue value of historic preservation and public celebration of the positive aspects of... Confederate heritage.

"It also shines a light on an often-ignored educational tool: the arts and humanities.

"Nothing will reach an audience quicker than good entertainment that is also educational. Whether it be a play, period music performed by a local SCV/OCR/UDC chorus or dramatic soliloquy... the arts are an effective tool which we have yet to fully exploit. They are perfect for school presentations in which a mass audience must be reached.

"There are Federal grants available through the National Endowment for the Arts to help fund such projects. It's there the asking, we just haven't been asking."

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Reporters needed; apply within.

ADVERTISEMENTS needed. Ad rates available from the Editor upon request. Camps are requested to assist in locating advertisers.

Who We Are, part 3

- Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Sons of the Confederate Veterans or of the South Carolina Division. Introspection, thoughtful consideration and discussion, and refinement of focus are the goals.

Almost immediately after the first article concerning "who we are" was published, we received several letters from compatriots who took umbrage with some of the content of that article. We understand that there may be more differing opinions, and in our last issue, we asked that further letters be delayed until the end of a series of explanations of our SCV Charge. In an effort to avoid the appearance of censorship, we relate the following with the usual subtle editorial content.

Lex Crawford says, "...you make accusations that I find to be untrue and malicious. ... You are in fact implying that Confederate Citizens that supported their government, and their Government, were racists." It is interesting to note that the merits and morals of chattel slavery were of prominent and continuous debate in the Southern states (not to mention those of the North) almost from the Peculiar Institution's inception.

Oran Smith feels that almost all answers provided in the article were wrong. He says that he is not so sure that there is much of a difference. Cmpt. Smith writes, "Confederate soldiers fought to defend that government's legitimacy and right to exist. ... The Confederate soldier died to defend the Confederate government, warts and all, the policies with which he agreed with [sic] as well as those he opposed. ... to separate the Confederate soldier from the Confederacy is to attempt to separate bone from marrow. ... Even if my grandfather had died bravely in the invasion of Poland, I would not join the Sons of the SS. We cannot defend the honor of soldiers without defending the honor of their cause." Precisely our point: we are trying to put on paper a solid definition of the Cause in our Charge. And we honor our ancestor because he fought, not because he died fighting.

Gene Griffin, in a lengthy six-page handwritten letter, noticed that the original article "seemed to be a divorcing of what the Confederate Government stood for and what the fighting man stood for." He continues the inference as, "The bottom line is that the Confederate Government regarded slavery as a major motivation for succession [sic] and eventual war, while the fighting men stood for and fought for something else altogether. This is a major error and is akin to Yankee lies [?] directing attention from the real cause or causes of the War." Cmpt. Griffin further pens that there is no "racial stigma" attached to the Battle Flag, that "the Battle Flag has a true heritage not connected with slavery or racism then, during the War or now. ... Was the South fighting to preserve slavery? No!" Referring to Honest Abe, Cmpt. Griffin tells us "... his Emancipation Proclamation freed slaves only in the Con-

federate States, not in the Union States. [Note: not all parts of the Confederate States were covered by that Proclamation, including portions of Northern Virginia and the Beaufort, SC area - Ed.] ... The whole ploy of the article seemed to be to find some means by which remove [sic] any association w/slavery on the part of the South - the Government and the fighting man. Let it be known that you cannot separate the one from the other. ... The fighting man was warring for what the Government stood for. ... by saying that the Government was what stood for slavery, not the fighting man who stood for something else ... Hogwash! What a measly cop-out!"

The author indeed does mean that the soldier stood for something other than slavery - something different to some degree from his Government - that the two causes were not identical. We submit that our organization is not **required** to defend the Government or the Nation, although we as individuals may do so. The distinction is difficult to delineate, but it exists nevertheless. We think that the Cause of the Government is reflected more in the moves toward Secession, especially the first round, than toward War.

To identify the Confederacy with Southern Heritage is only partially correct but limits the latter. We do not address Southern Heritage because it encompasses so much more than just Secession, The War, and Reconstruction. Southern Heritage would be just as honorable and important had there been no separation and strife.

Normally, it is not necessary to discuss slavery and the soldier in the same breath. However, it becomes necessary to further define each stand if one believes that the two were not inseparable. It does not imply that one slanders the Government or the Nation, as our Charge requires us to tell the true history of the South which would include slavery.

One cannot deny that there was a relationship between Slavery and the Confederate Government. To understand this relationship, we may examine, at the least, the *Confederate Constitution*, which may be assumed to be an accurate reflection of the attitude of the Government and perhaps the Nation as a whole. **Art. I, Sect. 9, paras. 1 & 2, and Art. IV, Sects. 2 & 3**, as well as **Vice President Stephen's speech in Savannah, 1861**, (referred to as the "**Cornerstone Speech**") are suggested reading. To see another view as to why the Government fought, see **Art. V of the Constitution**.

To understand why the soldier fought, we must **ask the soldier** to answer the question for himself. There is a

Continued next page

Who We Are, continued from previous page

myriad of personal reasons and we can never hope to list each one of them. Shelby Foote's **The Civil War: A Narrative**, Vol. I, page 65, relates the story of the Virginia soldier who explains to his captors that he is fighting "because you are here." A new book, **My Folks and the Civil War**, contains a letter with the statement, "... and the battle began, not for slavery, nor for secession, but for invasion." Also, Bell I. Wiley's **Johnny Reb** offers enlightenment as to the soldiers' reasons. The imposition of Will by Force... Invasion...

We might benefit further by determining the differences between the causes of **both** phases of Secession and of the War. These causes may be argued to be similar and in some cases identical. But, on the whole, they are not quite the same.

Today, as we preserve the good name and symbols of the Confederate soldier, we must determine what is meant by "his good name?" What is his Cause? Why was he so good that we are bound and proud to perpetuate his name and cause? What makes this man different from other soldiers throughout the ages and their causes? *Why is he so special?* We all want to do the honorable thing. The Main Thing is to keep The Main Thing, The Main Thing. As we watch the current movie "Braveheart", we get an inkling.

To attempt to separate, or the separation of, all these Causes is not a terrible thing, regardless of the feasibility or the outcome. It does no dishonor or discredit to the Confederacy as a nation, the Confederate Government, or the Confederate Soldier. What happened yesterday is today's truth, however obscure it may be. We should not judge yesterday's attitudes by today's standards but sometimes we may have to, for want of a better tool.

NOTICE

Normally, when unsigned articles appear in a publication, it is assumed that they are composed or compiled by the Editor or Editorial Staff. Readers may apply that assumption to this publication as well.

In Memoriam

William Hunphries, Jr.,
of Lyman, SC

Our sympathies go to his family and to his compatriots of the 16th SC Regiment Camp #36.

Thank You for Carrying
the Colors

I apologize for taking so long in extending my thanks for everyone's help in the Carry the Colors Campaign, but it has taken me this long to come back to this century! This march was truly an "out of this century" experience.

I want, first of all, to thank all of the marchers who participated. For many of you, sacrifices were made from work and family; the lack of sleep, the sore feet, all the sacrifices are appreciated. Your commitment to this project was a great and noble honor to our ancestors. The march was a memorial to their sacrifice which was infinite times more than ours. The march also showed our solid and continuous support for the Confederate Flag flying over the Statehouse. I know that our march had an influence on those Senators who entertained the Renovation Bill the very night that the marchers arrived at the Statehouse. We did have an influence on them. They saw our commitment. They knew the Flag had support. They voted to put the Flag over the dome by LAW... AND YOU MADE IT HAPPEN !!! THANK YOU!!!

A few special thanks also need to be extended. To Commander Chris Sullivan - Thank you for supporting this event from the very beginning to the end, and I mean the end because Commander Sullivan hoofed about five of the last few miles.

Thanks to Bill Bushall for making this a statewide event by organizing a troop from Aiken. Rain check on the Bullet Bill!

Thanks to the Wade Hampton Camp of Columbia for being great hosts in their city and being involved in the Charleston march, and to the Walterboro Camp for helping with the Charleston leg.

Finally my personal and sincere thanks to Manning Williams, Mark Blalock, Wayne Taylor and Skipper Owens for going the whole 120 miles and 36 hours! Your organization and dedication to the march was priceless. Manning, thanks for all you did in reassuring me early on that this idea really could fly! Thank you, Randy Burbage, for sending us off at the Battery with a few words and a mission to carry the Colors... "tied to a stick and that is all."

For all who participated, we will take from this march as much or more than we gave it .. a memory that will not only last in your mind, but in your hearts. The march will always be a reminder to you of your commitment to protect and preserve your heritage. When someone challenges you and asks "what have you done for your heritage lately?", you can tell them "I carried the Colors!" They will want to know more ... Tell them!!!

/s/ Philip L. Bradley

1st Lt. Cdr., Secession Camp #4

PS: Please send in your memories or comments on the Flag March to the *Palmetto Partisan*; send any photos also.

PPS: **Richmond, 1996** ... the SCV Convention and 100th [anniversary], is approximately 500 miles from Charleston - **anyone want to march to Richmond?**

Letter to Somebody Else's Editor

Cmpt. Samuel W. Howell, of Ft. Sumter Camp #1269, had published a Letter to the Editor in Charleston's Post & Courier on June 3, 1995. This is too good to pass up, and we print it for your enjoyment.

"The May 29 article about Memorial Day laments the lack of celebration or awareness of that holiday's meaning, and all of that being replaced with frivolity. Your reported failed to note, however, that for many South Carolinians, Memorial Day was celebrated on May 10, Confederate Memorial Day.

"South Carolina's largest group of war dead consists of the more than 18,000 South Carolinians who died in Confederate service. By comparison, approximately 2,000 South Carolinians died in each of the two world wars. In fact, more South Carolinians died fighting under the Confederate battle flag than under the Stars and Stripes in Vietnam, Korea, World War II, World War I, the Spanish-american War and the War of 1812 combined.

"Indeed, a more sobering thought is that approximately 71,000 South Carolinians served in Confederate forces. Of these, one of every four never returned home; almost all of those who did were either wounded or otherwise injured.

"But to understand the full level of patriotism of these men, one must realize that, according to the 1860 Census, South Carolina had a white male population of military age (18 to 45 years old) of 55,046.

To muster more than 71,000 troops meant that literally every white man, as well as 16,000 older white men, black men and children, answered the state's call when it was in its hour of greatest danger. This devotion to duty is understandable when we recall that in only two wars have Americans fought to defend their homes from an invading army: The War Between the States and the War of 1812. In all of our other conflicts, our armed forces were abroad fighting for or against various causes.

"The soldiers and sailors we remember on Confederate Memorial Day are the men who defended Charleston during the longest siege in modern military history; who fought against an invading Sherman, whose army burned Columbia, Barnwell, Blackville, Orangeburg, Camden and Winnsboro, all the while cutting a 40-mile swath across South Carolina from Savannah to North Carolina, destroying nine out of every 10 homes in its path. In the effort to defend their homes, virtually a whole generation of Southern manhood was obliterated.

"It is because of these heroes and what they did so close to our homes that Confederate Memorial Day on May 10 is honored with less frivolity than National Memorial Day on May 29."

Well said, Cmpt. Howell.

South Carolina Capsules

by Barry A. Price

THE RETURN OF CRUEL FATE

The battle in the Wilderness was underway. Signs had thus far been very encouraging for the Confederates, as a group of officers rode ahead of the main force of men to observe enemy position. suddenly, the circle found themselves in the midst of thick growth and partly before a turning Rebel column.

Fired upon, one man reeled in the saddle, badly hurt. Another fell to the ground, mortally wounded.

The turning Virginia infantry, mistaking the officers for Federals, had inadvertently opened on the party with musket fire. By so doing, they had killed General Micah Jenkins and seriously wounded General James Longstreet.

With the damage done, it was recalled that "Stonewall" Jackson had been hit by his own men, his entourage also having been mistaken as Federal. As amazing as it seems, the two sites are only about four miles apart and the second incident occurred almost exactly one year after the first. Further, in 1863, Jackson, the Virginian, was shot by a North Carolina picket and in 1864, Jenkins and Longstreet, two South Carolinians, were hit by Virginia men.

Thus turn the fates and fortunes of nations.

C.S.S. Hunley

We must pay attention to the dialogue in various quarters concerning what to do with the *C.S.S. Hunley*. There are a number of possibilities being bandied about, and practically everyone with an opinion is offering at least one.

(A) Leave it there for a perpetual memorial, including the remains of any sailors entombed therein. Mark it with a flag or other suitable memorial marker. One letter writer says, "If one of our ancestors were entombed therein, we would certainly not want the remains disturbed."

(B) Raise it, preserve it, mount it for public display. Remove the remains.

(1) The Charleston Museum thinks it's the best repository;

(2) Patriot's Point would be suitable as a last site;

(3) Send it back to Mobile, Ala.;

(4) Send the remains to Mobile for reburial;

(5) Bury the remains with the other *Hunley* sailors in Charleston's Magnolia Cemetery.

The SC Legislature is moving to protect this extremely valuable piece of history, and Secession Camp, Charleston, has moved to protect the remains of the sailors.

Some of these solutions are remarkable in their own right. If the boat is left submerged and marked, how long will it take for removable parts to be stolen and sold on the black market? Already, bounties are offered for the hatch cover (\$50,000) and the propeller (\$100,000). A marking flag is a welcome mat to the thief. And how long would the sub remain in any condition to be memorialized, if left unprotected underwater?

The big question is, Where will it go? And the greater question, most appropriate to us Sons, is where will the remains of the brave sailors go? It may well be time to unlimber your pens and contact your political representatives to express your views.

It is the official position of the South Carolina Division, SCV, that the *C.S.S. Hunley* be raised in a proper manner, be placed on public display in the Charleston, SC, area, and the remains of the crew be interred properly in Magnolia Cemetery, Charleston, SC.

Ballenger Medal of Honor Update

Adam Ballenger has been awarded the SCV Confederate Medal of Honor but circumstances have impeded the scheduling of actual award ceremony. A new camp in South Carolina has commemorated this man, and the Medal is set to be awarded in a suitable ceremony in conjunction with the Charter ceremonies of that Camp. Stay tuned.

CAMPS AND COMMANDERS

Orangeburg Camp Re-chartered

While today not a new camp, the Col. Olin M. Dantzler Camp #73 was re-chartered, honoring the original camp and all of its members. Originally chartered in April 1898, the camp received its new charter on September 30, 1993 in Orangeburg, SC. The original camp honored Col. Olin M. Dantzler, 22nd SC Volunteers, who was from St. Matthews, then a part of Orangeburg District. He was killed at Bermuda Hundred, Virginia, on June 2, 1864.

The new camp had 11 Charter Members, all from the Wade Hampton Camp #273 of Columbia. The first Commander of the new camp was Cmpt. Reddick A. Bowman. Present Commander is James H. Gressette. We do not have the name of the original Commander nor of the original complement at this time.

The camp meets on the second Thursday of alternating months at the Crossroads Country Restaurant on Highway 4, south of Orangeburg. Call Cdr. Gressette at (803) 534-3914 to find out the next meeting date.

Ancestor Lists

The only camps having submitted Ancestor Lists are **15th Regt. #51, Colleton Rangers #1643, Secession #4, Barnard Bee #1575, and Micah Jenkins #1569**. All other camps either have submitted no lists at all or have submitted partial lists. Remember, if you want to see your Camp represented, send your lists including members, ancestors, and their rank and unit to the Editor. Updates at least once annually are invited also. (All lists are requested to be submitted on disc). This is a way to generate new interest in the fraternity and a nice way to memorialize your ancestor.

Miscellaneous Notices

1. **Camp Adjutants** are reminded to send a real, xeroxed copy of the Applications to the Division Adjutant when new members are accepted. Transcribed information is not acceptable due to the type of information maintained in Division computer records.

2. The **100th Anniversary Division Reunion** is slated for March 30, 1996 weekend at the Ramada Hotel, Columbia (Conway). Plan now to attend.

3. Lt. Cdr. Bill Bushall has a number of 100th Anniversary **bookmarks** celebrating the formation of the Moultrie, SC, Camp. This event was yeld last November in Newberry, SC, and these souvenirs are still available for purchase. (803) 663-4751.

Stone Mountain: *What Has Happened to the Memorial?*

● Emphasis Shifts - Is the Mission to be forgotten?

Previously, we printed details of a laser show change at Stone Mountain, Georgia. This facility began as a mandated Confederate Memorial which has grown into a recreation area funded by the State of Georgia. As such, it is enjoying all the benefits of social intercourse including attacks on Confederate Heritage. Unfortunately, the management is having a very difficult time coping with it's metamorphosis. There was some internal failure to communicate at Stone Mountain when the first article was written, resulting in a lot of CYA until they got their act together.

Whether they got it all together can be left to the reader, who may judge for himself. The following articles appeared in The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, a newspaper not noted for its own strong stance in support of Confederate Heritage; "unflagging support" has taken on new meaning in their halls. However, the author appears to have tried to be objective, fair, and truthful..

One of our readers communicated his displeasure to General Manager Branscome and received a curt and somewhat rude reply, which prompted this investigation and report.

Before reading, it is helpful to note that there is some philosophical conflict in and around Atlanta regarding the use of state funds to support a Confederate monument. But, read on...

August 25, 1994: "Images of the Confederate battle flag and music from the song 'Dixie' will no longer highlight the show when Stone Mountain Park unveils a new \$1 million summer laser spectacle. Park officials say those symbols will be portrayed only in their 'proper historical context,' if they are used at all, in the new show, which could be introduced next

summer. For the past decade, the battle flag has been emblazoned across the mountain's face during the popular laser shows, sometimes prompting boos from visitors offended by the image. Another point of controversy has been the show's finale, featuring an Elvis Presley rendition of the song 'Dixie'.

"Rep. Tyrone Brooks (D-Atlanta) is pleased with the planned changes, which are still in the works. 'I'm impressed,' said Brooks, who has tried to get the Confederate emblem removed from the state flag. 'I think they felt the criticism from promoting the events of Stone Mountain in an offensive tone.'

"Although the park will be the site of several Olympic events in 1996, George Berry, chairman of the Metropolitan Olympic Games Authority and a member of the Stone Mountain Memorial Association, the park's governing authority, said he was unaware of any Olympic officials pushing for changes in the laser show. 'But most of us (on the Stone Mountain authority) felt it was past due that there be a change,' he said.

"Park spokeswoman K Thweatt says the changes are a byproduct of redesigning the laser show and not a response to criticism. 'We still have a mandate to be both a Confederate memorial and a recreational facility, and we realize that,' said Thweatt. 'But we also realize we're a whole lot more than that.'

"Jim Reynolds, Commander of the Georgia Division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, said the changes don't square with the park's mission to be a memorial. 'There just seems to be a trend to try and hide Confederate heritage,' Reynolds said.

"Mary Owens, a member of the watchdog group Friends of Stone

Mountain Park, said the new show is likely to be 'more of a reflection of the contemporary South.'

"The new show will use sophisticated laser graphics and full-color photo images to jazz up the special effects. It is expected to trace the history of Stone Mountain from prehistoric times to the 1996 Olympics, using the image of fire as the central theme. Every detail of the show will be checked for historical validity, including any possible use of 'Dixie' and the Confederate emblem, said park marketing director Jack Norris. 'What we're trying to do,' he said, 'is put historical images and symbols in places they belong, so they will have relevance.'"

Also included in the original story was a summary of the **then-current** laser show. However, that status was not evident from the article, and the public received the impression that the published show was the one **intended** for production in 1995. The reader may draw his own conclusion as to the degree of offense imparted by the style of the show. Particular attention is drawn to "Whoop There It Is", James Brown's role, and the breaking of Gen. Lee's sword. However, if the depicted retreat of the figures in the sculpture is meant to imply that they couldn't take the show, that is understandable. Decide for yourself; here it is.

"Introduction: The song, 'Whoomp, there it is' plays as characters C.W. and Buford build a time machine.

Livin' in America: Features laser image of James Brown dancing and singing.

Courtship: Laser designs in psychedelic patterns spin around to music.

Footloose: Features laser image of ape dancing to the song, 'Footloose'.

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

Ghostbusters: Ghosts and ghouls dance and sing in haunted houses to music from the song.

Surf Medley: Laser images displayed to music from popular songs by The Beachboys band.

Forty Hour Week: Laser images acting out the song by Country band *Alabama*.

Coming to America: Laser image of entertainer Neil Diamond, with music from the song.

Rock and Roll Medley: Several golden oldies acted out in laser images.

Classical Gas: Psychedelic laser images with music from the song.

Devil went down to Georgia: Laser images act out Country song by Charlie Daniels.

Georgia on my Mind: Music by Ray Charles.

American Trilogy: Includes Elvis Presley's rendition of the song 'Dixie'.

God Bless the U.S.A.: The Confederate Battle flag appears, as laser images of Robert E. Lee, Jefferson Davis and Stonewall Jackson gallop off the Stone Mountain carving and *Lee breaks his sword across his knee.* [Italics added]"

August 26, 1994: "After complaints from hundreds of callers, Stone Mountain Park officials said Thursday that Confederate imagery will be included in the park's new laser show. 'The Confederate portion of the show remains an important portion,' said park spokeswoman K Thweatt. 'We have no intention of taking out the Confederate portion.' Park officials had been less definitive Wednesday, when marketing director Jack Morris said he didn't know whether Confederate images would be part of the new \$1 million show design, to be unveiled as early as next year. 'I don't know if it's going away,' he said. 'If there is an historical theme where it has a place, like the Second Battle of Atlanta, yes, there could be a reason why there could be a Confederate battle flag,' Morris said.

"In a Thursday press release, park officials said, 'Future changes would alter the technology of the show, but not the spirit.' A giant Confederate flag and a rousing Elvis Presley rendition of 'Dixie' have highlighted Stone Mountain's popular summer laser show for more than a decade. Some people have criticized the park for 'glorifying' symbols that they say are offensive.

"Thweatt gave no specifics Thursday on whether the flag and the song will be retained in the new laser show. When asked Wednesday if the flag would be included in the new show, Morris said, 'We're rethinking that. That's not our job to put the battle flag in a contemporary context.'

"After news reports of the possible changes, more than 200 people called park offices Thursday, many of them apparently believing that the decision had already been made to purge all Confederate imagery and music from the show, Thweatt said. 'They think that the Confederate portion of the show is being removed,' said public relations intern Bryan Hardman as he fielded several calls. One of the callers, Sam Hallman, said he was angered by attacks on his Southern culture. 'We take pride in it and do sort of glorify our past.' Meanwhile, Sandra Cooper and Doris Wiggins, two African-Americans visiting the park Thursday from Los Angeles, said that Georgia's Confederate past shouldn't be forgotten. 'It's a part of history, it's got stay ..., ' said Cooper, 'as long as you're not glamorizing and wishing it were here.'"

January 29, 1995: "After an emotional and racially charged public debate over a Stone Mountain Park tradition, the verdict is in: 'Dixie' and the Confederate flag will not be pulled from the popular laser show, at least for this year. Park officials have made no decision about the laser show content beyond 1995 and would not rule out changes in future years. Last year's plans to eliminate the symbols, or use them only in their historical perspective, drew an outpouring of calls from park users, who sent a clear message: Leave their Southern heritage alone. 'They didn't want

'Dixie' taken out,' park spokeswoman K Thweatt said. 'They felt it was a beautiful part of the show.'

"Park General Manager Curtis Branscome said he does not have the time or the money to make program changes in the laser show this year.

"Meanwhile, Branscome addressed another controversy at the park by renewing a commitment 'to increase minority representation at the management level,' as stated in a list of management goals presented to the park's board of directors. The board had pledged to increase minority employment and promotion after the disclosure in February that the park's top management was all white under the former General Manager Larry Allen. The message has gotten through, Branscome said. 'The word on the street is that Stone Mountain does hire and promote minorities,' he said. Park officials are working with the University of Georgia Institute of Government to evaluate training and development of all employees.

"Branscome said there is no conflict between the park's No. 1 goal, 'to meet the responsibility to serve as a Confederate memorial and a public recreation area,' and its goal to hire and promote minorities fairly. The park is mandated by Georgia law to be a Confederate memorial. 'It is just an academic, fruitless argument for my purposes,' Branscome said.

"Baseball great Henry Aaron, the park board's only Black member, said most people don't know or care about the state mandate. Aaron said that with the approach of the 1996 Olympic Games, when Stone Mountain will host tennis, archery and cycling, the park needs to continue efforts to improve its image. One way, Aaron said, would be 'making Stone Mountain good for everybody, and *not just looking like just a Confederate memorial.*' [Italics added - Ed.]

The *Palmetto Partisan* thanks Atlanta *Journal-Constitution* staff writer Duane Stanford for his invaluable assistance in acquiring this material, which he wrote in the first place.

BOOK REVIEW

By Richard Hatcher III

SOUTH CAROLINA VOLUNTEERS IN THE CIVIL WAR (Series)

1ST SOUTH CAROLINA VOLUNTEERS (GREGG'S), 1991, 54 pages

4TH SOUTH CAROLINA VOLUNTEERS (SLOAN'S), 1992, 36 pages

7TH SOUTH CAROLINA VOLUNTEERS (BACON'S), 1993, 43 pages

Ron Field Design Folio (Lower Swell, Gloucestershire, England)

During the War Between the States the greatest support for the Confederacy outside her boundaries could be found in Great Britain. Today that support lives on through several organizations including the Confederate Historical Society of Great Britain and numerous Confederate reenactment units. Many members of these organizations are serious students of the conflict and exhibit great knowledge on various aspects of the war, a remarkable accomplishment considering the scarcity of primary source material in Great Britain.

In 1991, overcoming these obstacles, Ron Field began publishing his series, **SOUTH CAROLINA VOLUNTEERS IN THE CIVIL WAR**. As described in part by the author, "This series is designed to provide a guide to their organisation, uniforms, flags, arms and equipment." And that has been accomplished in each volume through hundreds of hours of research both in secondary and primary sources. The amount of research is best displayed by Mr. Field's use of endnotes. He cites newspapers and letters, as well as diaries, and journals. Due to the number of sources, a bibliography, which at present is not included, would be greatly appreciated by both reader and researcher.

Each volume follows a set format, starting with an overview of the unit's organization including uniforms, flags, weapons and accoutrements. That is followed by a similar outline of each company. Naturally, the information on each unit and company is dictated by the amount of material available on that organization. Illustrations add to the merit of each volume. The majority are original artwork of the author and are similar to those which appear in the nation's leading military history publication "Military Collector & Historian" (the journal of The Company of Military Historians).

Well over 100 South Carolina units saw service and the author has so far documented three. At present he is working to complete a two volume work on Hampton's Legion which should be available later this year. This reviewer applauds Mr. Field's efforts to compile and record this important aspect of South Carolina's Confederate units and looks forward to future issues in the series. Those interested in obtaining a copy/copies of these booklets will find them available in the U.S. from only two sources: Mr. J. J. Fox, 9 Precipice Road, Camden, SC 29020; or the Cotton Mill Exchange, South Carolina State Museum, PO Box 100107, Columbia, SC 29202-3107.

Memorial Day Coverage 1995

Our Confederate Memorial Day, May 6, 1995 received varied types of coverage by our own South Carolina press. Columbia's *The State* apparently thought it had been canceled, and Charleston's *Post & Courier* was better but unimpressive nevertheless (see the letter elsewhere in this publication). We are not aware of any other statewide coverage of this important event. However, the Associated Press did pick up the story, which received prime coverage in Greensboro, NC (and elsewhere, presumably) on May 7. The AP story covered the various facets of the event very well.

Lee McKinnon, a Black businessman from Columbia, was on his way to a meeting when he stopped by to learn the feelings of Confederate supporters. He says it's OK to disagree as long as you're not disagreeable. "We need to start coming together. But that's not going to change unless we start seeing each others' side." The coverage caught Cdr. Howard Hughes, of Columbia's Wade Hampton Camp: "Being proud of your heritage is coming back into vogue."

Even Cmpt. Jim Tapley (Secession #4) was quoted from his remarks at the podium. Tapley is Colonel of the Palmetto Battalion, the South Carolina reenactors' association. Tapley said, "The South is under attack today, but the enemy is more insidious than the one we faced back then. They want us to believe that Southern values are wrong and they will never do that."

Pictured prominently (by photographer Virginia Marshall) within the article were some compatriot members of the Palmetto Battalion, in full uniform and formation. Manning Williams, (Secession #4), 1st Sgt. of the Battalion, was leading his troops in the cheer, "Who are we?" "South Carolina!", shouted the troops in response. Also pictured are Jerry Morris (Wm. H. Duncan #1650) and Larry Steedly (Secession #4).

Black Confederates in the Last Campaign

By Chris Calkins, Historian, Petersburg National Battlefield Park

Reprinted from *The Old Dominion Voice*, Official Publication of the Virginia Division, SCV, with the permission of the author.

With General Robert E. Lee's manpower reserves quickly draining, on March 23, 1865, General Order #14 was issued which allowed for the enlistment of Blacks into the Confederate service. Shortly thereafter, a notice was posted in Petersburg's *The Daily Express*, "The commanding General deems the prompt organization of as large a force of negroes as can be spared, a measure of the utmost importance, and the support and cooperation of the citizens of Petersburg and the surrounding counties is requested by him for the prosecution to success of a scheme which he believes promises so great benefit to our cause... To the slaves is offered freedom and undisturbed residence at their old homes in the Confederacy after the war. Not the freedom of sufferance, but honorable and selfwon by the gallantry and devotion which grateful countrymen will never cease to remember and reward."

This recruitment effort did bear fruit in Richmond where Majors James W. Pegram and Thomas P. Turner put together a "Negro brigade" of Confederate States Colored Troops. The *Richmond Daily Examiner* noted of the unit "the knowledge of the military art they already exhibit was something remarkable. They moved with evident pride and satisfaction to themselves."

As the Confederate army abandoned Richmond on April 3, apparently these Black Confederate soldiers went along with General Custis Lee's wagon train on its journey. They would move unmolested until they reached the area of Painesville on April 5. Here they were attacked by General Henry Davies' troopers. A Southern soldier remembered that "I saw a wagon train guarded by Confederate negro soldiers. When within about one hundred yards of and in the rear of the wagon train, I observed some Union cavalry a short distance away on elevated ground forming to charge and the negro soldiers forming to meet the attack, which was met successfully... The cavalry charged again, and the negro soldiers surrendered."

A Confederate officer, who rode upon this situation as it was transpiring recalled, "Several engineer officers were superintending the construction of a line of rude breast-works... Ten or twelve negroes were engaged in the task of pulling down a rail fence; as many more occupied in carrying the rails, one at a time, to the desired spot; and several were busily throwing up the dirt."

He said the black Confederates, "thus employed all wore good gray uniforms and I was informed that they belonged to the only company of colored troops in the Confederate service, having been enlisted by Major Turner in Richmond. Their muskets were stacked, and it was evident that they regarded their present employment in no very favorable light."

Although (Union Officer) Davies makes no mention of these Black Confederate soldiers in his captures for the day, he does state that he took 310 "teamsters" at Painesville. Presumably he was not aware that they were considered formal Southern infantry.

On April 10th, as Confederate prisoners were being marched from Sailor's Creek and elsewhere to City Point and eventually off to Northern prison camps, a Union chaplain observed the column. "The first instalment [sic] of Rebel prisoners, numbering seventeen hundred and seventy, have just passed, under a strong guard... In the squad were many negroes recently armed by Jef. Davis."

This incident along the retreat to Painesville, seems to be the only documented episode of "official" Black troops serving the Confederacy in Virginia as a unit under fire.

When Lee surrendered his army at Appomattox, thirty-six African-Americans were listed on the Confederate paroles. Most were either servants, free blacks, musicians, cooks, teamsters or blacksmiths.

Explanation

In our May issue, we quoted a poem from a postcard. Carolyn Kent, Editor of the Tennessee Division's *Dixie Liberator*, advises that the source is *Heroes in Gray*, by Fr. Abram Ryan (1838-1886). For a good thumbnail sketch of Fr. Ryan, see *Who Was Who in the Civil War* (Sifakis).

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Deadline for next issue is the 10th of next month.

New Camp Activity

During the 1994/95 year, the following new South Carolina camps have been Chartered or have applied for a Charter:

Maj. William King Easley #762, Easley, 4/20/94

Olde Abbeville #39, Abbeville, 7/94

Sgt. Berry Benson #1672, North Augusta, 6/21/94

Maj. Morgan/Hart's Battery #1674, Springfield, 8/5/94

Colleton Rangers #1642, Walterboro, 8/15/94

Jefferson Davis/4th SC Rgt. #7, Piedmont, 9/24/94

Rivers Bridge #842, Fairfax, 10/6/94

Capt. Moses Wood #125, Gaffney, 1/6/95

Gen. Joe Wheeler #1245, Aiken, 3/13/95

Litchfield #132, Conway, 4/25/95

WeeNee Volunteers #58, Kingstree, 5/10/95

Brig. Gen. Samuel McGowen #40, Laurens, 5/10/95

Sgt. Adam Washington Ballenger (CMOH) #68, Spartanburg, 5/10/95

Three applications for Charters have been submitted in May, at Memorial Day activities in Columbia, and one in April, with each camp operating under an old Camp Number. Phone numbers are not available at press time.

DETATILS OF ACTIVITY:

Col. Joseph Norton #45, Seneca: Cdr. Frank A. Axson, Lt. Cdr. Russell Cox, Jr., and Adj. Luther L. Lyle. total 14 members including two transfers.

Weenee Volunteers Camp #58, Kingstree: Cdr. William Brown, Lt. Cdr. Frank Williams, and Adj. C.E. Thompson. Total 19 members including five transfers and one reinstatement.

B/G Samuel McGowan Camp #40, Laurens: Cdr. Rick Veal, Lt. Cdr. Danny Verdin III, and Adj. Paul Quinton. Total 17 members including two transfers.

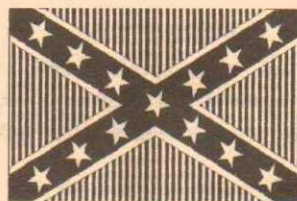
Adam Washington Ballenger Camp #68, Spartanburg: Cdr. Wright Sullivan; Lt. Cdr. William D. Geen, Sr.; Adj. Thomas C. Johnson. Total nine members, including three transfers.

We should be reporting on new Recruiter awards soon.

New Camp Officers, take note and take the hint:

Camp Histories should prove interesting as well, in that these small Camp Numbers indicate previous SCV activity in those areas. Ancestor Lists should be forthcoming also - what a way for these new compatriots to tell everyone how proud they are of their ancestors! Congratulations to the Charter members of these fine new Camps!

Confederate Flag Flies over South Pacific



A series of capsule histories on World War II, published by Knight-Ridder,

reports on the fighting at Okinawa. It seems that the Japanese were retreating and were caught on the southern tip of the island.

"Three days later, Shuri Castle fell to troops from the Fifth Marine Regiment who had outflanked the position from the east. The Japanese had deployed the forces forward to hold back the Army's 77th Infantry Division and the Marine assault took them by surprise. The castle had been left virtually undefended and was quickly overrun.

"Captain Julius Dusenbury, commanding Company A, was carrying a flag in his helmet for just such an occasion. He climbed to the highest parapet on the medieval palace and unfurled his flag. But it wasn't the stars and stripes. Dusenbury was from South Carolina, the flag he flew was the stars and bars of the Confederacy. It was a gesture that the commander of the U.S. 10th Army could appreciate, for Lt. Gen. Simon Bolivar Buckner's father had been a general in the Confederate Army."

We have heard other stories of Southern fighting men in that war flying the Battle Flag under a variety of circumstances. There was not the antipathy directed toward that flag in those days.

International Convention news will be in the next issue!

Corrections to the last issue

1. The **Barnard E. Bee Camp** took **2nd place as Camp of the Year**, not Wade Hampton.

2. As of the Convention, there were **1650** members, not 1550. Even at that, we now have **1734** members on the mailing list of the *Palmetto Partisan*.

3. Regarding the Flag Suit, the issue may be a **moot** point rather than a **mute** point. The spell checker is alright, the writer is not. Actually, it's good either way.

4. In the story about the stamps, in discoursing on the "Army-Navy" issue, we listed Farragut as **not** being a topic of the new issue; this is wrong, he **IS** a topic. Porter remains a non-topic. And we said all the Yankee issues were repeats; this also is an error, as **Winfield Hancock** has never been so honored.

CALENDAR OF REMEMBRANCE

Fly your Confederate flags on these special days!

JULY

1 July- Malvern Hill, VA - 1862

1-3 July- Gettysburg, PA - 1863

4 July- Vicksburg, MS

Surrenders - 1863

4 July- WILLIAM PORCHER MILES - 1822

4 July- JAMES JOHNSTON PETTIGREW - 1828

10 July- JAMES DUNWOODY BROWN-SON DEBOW - 1820

10 July- Morris Island - 1863

11 July- 1st Assault

on Battery Wagner - 1863

13 July- NATHAN BEDFORD FOREST - 1821

13 July- Riddle's Shop, VA - 1864

16 July- Grimball's Plantation - 1863

19 July- 2nd Assault on Battery Wagner- 1863

20 July- Peachtree Creek, GA - 1864

21 July- 1st Manassas - 1861

22 July- Atlanta, GA - 1864

27 July- Deep Bottom, VA - 1864

28 July- Ezra Church, GA - 1864

28 July- New Market Heights, VA - 1864

29 July- Chaffin's Bluff, VA - 1864

29 July- Lee's Mills, VA - 1864

30 July- The Crater, VA - 1864

30 July- King's Creek, SC - 1864

Computer Buffs, Take Note

For those who utilize the computer modem and like to chit-chat, SC Division 1st Lt. Cdr. Bill Bushall can be found wondering about on America On Line at HARLEY46FL. Other members who are on-line may forward their addresses to Bill on E-mail, or L-Mail @ 104 Crossroads Dr., Graniteville, SC 29829.

The PALMETTO PARTISAN

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